



***Consulate General of the United States of America  
Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam***

***American Citizen Services Unit  
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## **MARRIAGE IN VIETNAM**

In general, marriages legally performed and valid abroad are also legally valid in the United States. Inquiries regarding the validity of a marriage abroad should be directed to the attorney general of the state in the United States where the parties to the marriage will live.

### **Vietnamese Marriage Requirements:**

Applications for marriage between a citizen of a foreign country and a Vietnamese citizen residing in Vietnam should be filed in person at the Justice Department offices in the city/ province where the Vietnamese citizen resides. All documents obtained from the U.S. must be accompanied by a certified translation into Vietnamese from either the Vietnamese Embassy in the U.S. or the Vietnamese notary public. Although requirements for obtaining marriage certificates may vary from province to province, the general requirements for the U.S. citizen partner are as follow:

1. Application for marriage (obtained from the Vietnamese Justice Department);
2. Official copy of the U.S. citizen's passport. If birth records have been destroyed or are otherwise unattainable, a U.S. citizen applicant who was born in Vietnam may execute an "Affidavit of Birth" at the U.S. Consulate to submit in its place. The notarization fee is \$ 50.
3. Medical examination from a competent authority certifying that the applicant is in sound mental and physical health. The examination results must be dated no earlier than six months before the date of marriage registration;
4. Affidavit of Single Status. The applicant can request this document from the civil registry in the state in which he/she resides or complete an affidavit at the U.S. Consulate. This document must be signed within six months of application for a marriage certificate. The notarization fee at the U.S. Consulate is \$50 USD. If the applicant had a previous marriage, present an authenticated copy of the divorce decree or death certificate for the previous spouse(s);
5. A letter by the local vital statistics office certifies that no marriage license or marriage certificate of the applicant is found within the state where the applicant is residing in. The search period must be started from the year when the applicant was 18-year-old up to date. In case the applicant was divorced, or the spouse has been deceased, a certified photocopy of a divorce decree or a death certificate must be submitted. (This requirement varies from province to province).

6. The Department of Justice charges one million Vietnamese Dong (VND 1,000,000) to process a marriage certificate

Note:

- For further information, please refer to the Vietnamese Embassy website <http://www.vietnamembassy-usa.org> or the Justice Department website [www.sotuphap.hochiminhcity.gov.vn](http://www.sotuphap.hochiminhcity.gov.vn)
- The Vietnamese citizen partner should consult with Vietnamese authorities about that partner's requirements.
- The Justice Department of Ho Chi Minh City is located at 141-143 Pasteur Street, District 1, Ho Chi Minh City.